

MINUTES
SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES COUNCIL
APRIL 24, 2013
VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARDS
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mark Blackwell, *Substance Abuse Alliance Recovery Association (SAARA)*
JoAnn Burkholder, *Department of Education (DOE)*
W. Curtis Coleburn, *Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC)*
Jack Frazier, *Department of Social Services (DSS)*
Henry Harper, *Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth (VFHY)*
Delegate M. Keith Hodges, *Virginia House of Delegates*
Parham Jaber, *Department of Health (DOH)*
Robert Johnson, *Virginia Association of Community Services Boards (VACSB)*
Art Mayer, *Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)*
Mendy Meeks, *Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS)*
Jamie McDonald, *Virginia Association of Community Services Boards/Prevention (VACSB-Prevention)*
Grady McLean, *Department of Corrections (DOC)*
Charlene Motley, *Commission on Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program (VASAP)*
Ron Pritchard, *Virginia Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors (VAADAC)*
Mellie Randall, *Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS)*
Patricia Shaw, *Virginia Drug Court Association (VDCA)*
Jim Tobin, *Virginia Association of Community Services Boards (VACSB)*
Bob Weakley, *Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)*
Diane Williams, *Substance Abuse Certification Alliance of Virginia (SACAVA)*
Will Williams, *Virginia Association of Community Services Boards/SA Council (VACSB-SA)*

STAFF:

Lynette Bowser, *DBHDS*
Margaret Anne Lane, *DBHDS*
Karen Taylor, *Office of Attorney General*
Julie Truitt, *DBHDS*

GUEST:

Madeline Berry, *Substance Abuse Certification Alliance of Virginia*

- I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:** The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Will Williams, with introductions by those in attendance.
- II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 30, 2012 MEETING:** A motion was made by Delegate Hodges and seconded by Diane Williams to approve the minutes of the August meeting. The motion was carried.

III. PRESENTATION:

- **SUBSTANCE ABUSE CERTIFICATION ALLIANCE OF VIRGINIA (SACAVA):** Madeline Berry gave a presentation on SACAVA.
 - SACAVA has been in existence for 25 years. It was established to provide a second tier of substance abuse certification in Virginia.
 - It is a member of the International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium (IC&RC), which has 76 member boards in 24 countries, 47 U.S. states and territories, 5 Native American territories and all branches of the U.S. Military. IC&RC is the governing board that sets the minimum standards for all of SACAVA's credentials; each member board has the option to increase its standards.
 - SACAVA's five credentials include Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor; Certified Prevention Specialist, Certified Criminal Justice Addictions Professional; Certified Co-Occurring Disorders Professional and Certified Clinical Supervisor. In Virginia there are 423 individuals credentialed by SACAVA, with most of them falling under the alcohol and drug counselor and prevention specialist.
 - SACAVA now offers computer-based testing for its exams, which allows testing on-demand within 24 hours after approval of applications. There are 14 sites around the state where the tests are administered. Written exams are offered by request four times a year.
 - SACAVA requires recertification of all of its credentials two times a year. All credentials have reciprocity among member boards in the U.S. and internationally.
 - SACAVA has started a partnership with Old Dominion University. A pilot course, which was jointly vetted, was started this past November with 13 individuals currently enrolled.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

- **2012 SASC REPORT AND PLAN:** Mellie Randall reported on the SASC 2012 report and plan.
 - The Council is required to report on the cost, utilization and evaluation of substance abuse services provided by state agencies. The report is focused on the DBHDS services provided through community services boards, the Department of Corrections' services and services provided by the Department of Juvenile Justice. The 2012 report is posted on the website.
 - The Code requires the Council to provide advice to the General Assembly and the Governor annually. At the last Council meeting, it was decided that the report would cover implications for substance abuse treatment/ prevention that are raised by healthcare reform. Due to issues concerning implementation of the Affordable Care Act, Ms. Randall made a strategic decision not to go forward with the Council's report in 2012. She is currently preparing a report for review at the September SASC meeting.

V. NEW BUSINESS: Ms. Randall announced that this would be Julie Truitt's last meeting with the Council. Ms. Truitt will be replaced by Margaret Anne Lane, who will be providing staff support to the Council in the future. Ms. Randall thanked Ms. Truitt for her work and support to the Council.

- a. **COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:** Ms. Lane asked members to review the roster that was included in their packets and make necessary changes to their contact information.

- b. **SUBSTANCE ABUSE RELATED LEGISLATION:** Members were provided with the “2013 General Assembly Tracking for SASC,” which provided a listing and status of critical legislation pertaining to substance abuse treatment and prevention that was presented at the 2013 General Assembly. Ms. Randall reviewed the list of bills, and with input from Council members, provided background and an explanation on the final status of the bills.
- c. **FEDERAL BUDGET OUTLOOK:** Ms. Randall reported on what the sequester means for DBHDS. DBHDS typically receives about \$42 million through the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant. This funding constitutes about 45% of the funding that DBHDS allocates to the community services boards for community substance abuse treatment and all of the funding for prevention services. The effect of the sequester, along with typical formula adjustments to the state’s allocation from SAMHSA, was to reduce the amount awarded to Virginia by slightly more than 5%. This reduction was passed along to the CSBs. Implementation of the Affordable Care Act remains unclear. DBHDS is interested in working closely with DMAS on how the Affordable Care Act is implemented, specifically the health care exchange and, depending on the Governor’s decision, Medicaid expansion.
- d. **REPORT AND PLAN FOR UPCOMING YEAR:** Ms. Randall stated that this is a more strategic year to write about the implementation of the Affordable Care Act and how it might affect substance abuse services. She also described the states’ participation in a national policy project, sponsored by the National Governors’ Association, focusing on prescription drug abuse. That plan will be presented to the Governor for endorsement and includes monitoring, enforcement, disposal and training/education. She stated that she would like for the Council to consider endorsing that plan. Ms. Randall will invite a representative from the Department of Health Professions to present a summary of the NGA initiative at the Council’s July meeting.
- e. **OTHER:** Chairman Will Williams asked Council members to give updates on their organizations’ current activities:
 - JoAnn Burkholder, DOE, reported that ABC, DBHDS, DOE, UVA, VCU and the Secretary of Education’s office have been working with the Governor’s initiative, Substance Abuse Awareness Vital for Virginia Youth (SAVVY), which recognizes school divisions and communities for their involvement with community agencies and prevention councils in their areas.

Ms. Burkholder also stated that she is now serving on the education committee of the Governor’s School Security Taskforce. The taskforce is divided into public safety, education and mental health committees.
 - Jamie McDonald, VACSB, reported that the VACSB Prevention Council submitted a request for the Governor to proclaim April as Prescription Medication Take Back Month. The Governor issued that proclamation and in concert with the Attorney General’s Office and the DEA, prescription take back events that will be happening April 27 across the state.

- Mark Blackwell, SAARA, reported that DBHDS applied for and received a SAMHSA policy grant focusing on integrating recovery concepts into the treatment system. The project is called Bringing Recovery Supports to Scale: Technical Assistance Collaborative (BRSS-TACS). Among other things, the project is emphasizing the role of peer recovery support services as a part of for mental health and substance abuse services. The stakeholders will be having a summit in Roanoke in June develop plans.
- Grady McLean, DOC, reported that DOC has established the Matrix program in their institutions; it is up and running and doing well.
- Ron Pritchard, VAADAC, stated that the Virginia Summer Institute for Addiction Studies (VSIAS) will be held on July 15-17 in Williamsburg. CMEs will be available. There will be a one-day student workforce development presentation, with a goal of attracting younger people into the addictions field. The workforce development presentation is free to students.
- Henry Harper, VFHY, stated that Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth had their youth obesity conference in Richmond on April 10 -11. The conference was well attended. VFHY is planning a national tobacco reduction conference, which will be held in Arlington in April of 2014. The Virginia Youth Survey has been reviewed and approved and is ready to go out.
- Patricia Shaw, VDCA, reported that May is Drug Court Month. A listing of graduations/celebrations can be found at the Virginia Drug Court Association's website. VDCA is continuing to work on changing how to get approval for a drug court
- Charlene Motley, VASAP, reported that as a result of the law requiring ignition lock devices for persons convicted of DUI, installations have increased by 2,800 over the previous year.
- Robert Johnson, VACSB, stated that Medicaid expansion offers the best opportunity for substance abuse services that the field has ever seen. It is important to follow the reform commission and ensure that the requirements with CMS are followed so that it can come into effect next July.
- Curtis Coleburn, ABC, reported that the former Governor's Office on Substance Abuse Prevention (GOSAP) has transitioned into the Virginia Office for Substance Abuse Prevention (VOSAP) and has moved to ABC. VOSAP's duties with respect to coordination of state agency substance abuse programs and the annual report on the state of substance abuse prevention have been integrated into ABC.
- Mellie Randall, DBHDS, stated that DBHDS has been involved with the BRSS-TACs initiative in addressing recovery from both the substance use perspective and the mental health perspective.

Ms. Randall reported that the National Governors' Association (NGA) sponsored a national competition for policy work around prescription drug abuse. Virginia was one of eight states selected to participate. The Department of Health Professions is the team leader, with core members from the Department of State Police, Secretary of Public Safety and DBHDS. A national meeting was held last fall to hear from key informants. The Virginia team focused on four components: training and education; monitoring; enforcement; and disposal. The team met throughout the year, drafted Virginia's plan, and is presenting it in May at an NGA conference.

She also reported that DBHDS and DJJ also received a policy grant from the MacArthur Foundation and SAMHSA to divert youth from court involvement based on their need for behavioral health intervention. Virginia was one of eight states selected to participate. A pilot was set up with the juvenile court system in the Lynchburg. At-risk youth were referred to the community services board. Preliminary data are very promising, and the two agencies have collaborated on an application to the federal Bureau of Justice Assistance to continue and expand the project.

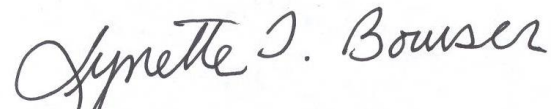
- Will Williams reported that he attended the Behavioral Health Advisory Council (BHAC) meeting and found it to be very informative. This is a body required by the federal Mental Health Block Grant that has recently been expanded from mental health to include substance abuse. He is looking forward to continuing to represent SASC on BHAC.

VI. NEXT MEETING: The next Council meetings are scheduled for May 29, July 10 and September 4. The meetings will all take place at the Virginia Association of Community Services Boards.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT: No comments.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made and accepted to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,


Lynette Bowser